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COUNTRY	East Germany	SECURITY INFORMATION	REPORT
TOPIC	Grossenhain Airfield		25X1
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT			25X1
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	1 September 1953 25X1
REFERENCES			
PAGES	3	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS			

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- The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Grossenhain airfield between 25 July and 1 August 1953:

25 July. About 4:30 p.m., 29 MiG-15s and U-MiG-15s with auxiliary fuel tanks took off in elements of two at intervals of 500 to 600 meters within nine minutes. The planes assembled to a formation and then headed west. The individual planes flew at intervals and distances of 25 meters and 20 meters respectively. The planes landed individually at about 6 p.m.

25X1 [redacted] During the air activity, 6 MiG-15s and U-MiG-15s were parked at the field.

26 July. There was no air activity. The weather was clear, later cloudy.

27 July. Between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. there was intensive air activity by swept-back jet fighters which almost exclusively practiced formation flying in elements of two and in flight formation. Repeatedly planes towing sleeve targets were seen aloft. The sleeve targets were attacked lateral from the rear at an angle of about 60 degrees and from behind at an angle of about 45 degrees. No bursts were fired. There was night flying after 8 p.m. including the taking-off of elements of two planes. One rotating searchlight was in operation.

28 July. Between 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. formation flights of 30 to 35 minutes duration each were made by planes flying in elements of two and in flight formation. The sky was 5/10 overcast during daytime and 10/10 in the late afternoon. Between 8 p.m. and midnight there was night flying. The aircraft took off individually and in elements of two.

25X1 29 July. Between 10:45 a.m. and 11:12 a.m. and between 11:50 a.m. and 12:20 p.m., 4 MiG-15s with auxiliary fuel tanks [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] practiced flying in formation of 4 planes. Between 11 a.m. and noon 1 Po-2 was also seen aloft. There was only light air activity in the afternoon. About 10 a.m., 19 MiG-15s and U-MiG-15s and 1 Po-2 were parked at the field.

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30 July. Between 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. 30-minute formation flights were repeatedly made in elements of three planes. [redacted]

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[redacted] the latter plane definitely being occupied by a two-man crew. There was night flying between 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. About 11:30 a.m., 37 MiG-15s and U-MiG-15s were parked at Grossenhain airfield.

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31 July. About 8:05 a.m., 4 swept-back jet fighters [redacted]

[redacted] took off at intervals of 30 seconds. The planes assembled to flight formation and flew to the west. They landed at 9:32 a.m. There was a 10/10 overcast at an altitude of 600 meters. About 11:20 a.m., 8 swept-back jet fighters took off in elements of two, assembled in two formations of 4 and flew in a northwesterly direction from where they returned about noon, landing individually. About 3 p.m., a formation of three swept-back jet fighter was seen aloft. Between 9 p.m. and 11 p.m., there was night flying by planes taking off and flying in elements of two. About 8 a.m., 32 MiG-15s and U-MiG-15s with auxiliary fuel tanks were counted at the field.

1 August. In the morning and during noon hours, formation flying by elements of two planes was observed. About 9 a.m., 1 Po-2 was also seen aloft.¹

2. About 5 p.m. and noon on 25 and 29 July respectively, six trucks each towing AA guns were seen proceeding from the loading ramp at the airfield in the direction of the fuel dump. [redacted]

3. [redacted]

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4. The following air activity was observed at the field between 27 and 31 July:

27 July. There was air activity between noon and about 2 a.m. After 8:30 p.m., a searchlight was in operation which did not catch the aircraft with its beams.

28 July. There was flying by swept-back jet fighters during the afternoon and night.

29 July. Flights were made between 10 a.m. and noon. Visibility was good.

30 July. Throughout the day and at night, aircraft were observed aloft.

31 July. Between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m., MiG-15s and single-engine low-wing monoplanes were seen aloft.

5. Between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. on 29 July, 3 MiG-15s and U-MiG-15s practiced flying over the field. Eighteen swept-back jet fighters were parked in front of the hangars. Between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on 31 July, MiG-15s and

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25X1 U-MIG-15s continuously took off and assembled to formations of four and two. South of Grossenhain diving was practiced. 1

25X1 6. About 10 soldiers with black-bordered blue epaulets and guards insignia were seen in the town of Grossenhain. Trucks [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] were observed entering and leaving the airfield. 25X1

25X1 1. [redacted] Comment. A fighter division headquarters and two fighter regiments equipped with a total of 60 MIG-15s are believed to be stationed at Grossenhain airfield. The air activity observed was being carried out in the usual pattern. [redacted] 25X1

25X1 2. [redacted]

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